

CLASSIFICATION

SECURITY INFORMATION

East Germany

REPORT

Military Information from the Dessau-Aken-Wiesenburg Area

EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 50X1-HUM

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 21 November 1952

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

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REMARKS [REDACTED]

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1. During the period from 5 to 10 October 1952, about 25 trains each with 150 axles carrying tanks, trucks, AT guns, mortars and engineer equipment were unloaded at, or passed through, the Dessau (N 52/E 17) railroad station. [REDACTED] other trains were unloaded in Koethen, Bitterfeld and Rosslau. A bridge was scheduled to be built across the Elbe River near Rosslau.<sup>1</sup>
2. During the period from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on 12 October, numerous columns as well as individual trucks [REDACTED] were seen on the Dessau-Aken road.<sup>2</sup> Troops were assembled on either side of the road. A cab driver stated that the road was blocked to civilian traffic at noon on 11 October.
3. [REDACTED] about 30 tanks, 6 heavy howitzers of about 203-mm caliber and mortars were in the forest in Lodderitz (N 52/D 97) since 3 October.<sup>3</sup> [REDACTED] the troops allegedly planned to move in the direction of Aken on 15 October.<sup>4</sup>
4. On 12 October, a tent camp consisting of 10 tents and housing 4 half-track vehicles, 2 BA-64 armored scout cars and 8 T-34 tanks as well as an undetermined number of trucks was on the east side of the Kuehnau forest. Five M-13 rocket launchers were emplaced 1 km south of Juetrichau (N 52/E 07). Three half-track vehicles were seen 5 km southeast of Zerbst, 1 armored personnel carrier, 4 sidecar motorcycles, 1 radio truck and 2 BA-64 armored scout cars about 2 km northeast of Rias (N 52/D 97). [REDACTED] troops on the Zerbst-Barby-Guesterglueck road or the Guesterglueck-Wiesenburg (N 3/E 20) railroad line.
5. Personnel and materiel unloaded at the Dessau railroad station during the period from 7 to 9 October included:

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7 October. At 10 a.m., 18 x 152-mm gun howitzers and trucks [redacted]  
[redacted] At noon, 30  
artillery pieces, including 152-mm gun howitzers, and some trucks [redacted]

8 October. At 4 p.m., engineer soldiers, pontoons, 2 motorboats, crane trucks and trucks [redacted] 6

At 4:30 p.m., about 10 armored scout cars, 20 motorcycles and trucks [redacted] 7

At 5 p.m., several trucks with searchlights, [redacted]

6 T-34 tanks and truck [redacted] 6 At 5:30 p.m.,

9 October. At 10 a.m., trucks with searchlights [redacted] 5

At 3 p.m., about 250 engineer soldiers with trucks [redacted]

At 11:30 on the same day, a train carrying armored scout cars and trucks [redacted]

[redacted] passed through the station coming from the direction of Desslau. A train carrying trucks [redacted]  
[redacted] mounting light AA guns proceeded in the direction of Kochstedt at noon.

6. On 8 October, materiel unloaded at the Wiesenburg railroad station included 50X1-HUM  
11 T-34 tanks and trucks [redacted] which subsequently  
proceeded toward the Elbe River. Other trucks towing 82-mm mortars [redacted]  
[redacted] were unloaded at 1 p.m. and also proceeded in the direction  
of Dessau on the Elbe River.<sup>10</sup> 50X1-HUM

7. At 12:30 p.m. on 9 October, a column consisting of 2 jeeps, 9 M-13 rocket launchers and 12 trucks [redacted] 50X1-HUM  
[redacted] passed through Dessau toward Leipziger Strasse. Ten of these trucks carried mortar shells at an average of up to 22 per truck.<sup>11</sup>

3. Comment. [redacted] the 124th Div How Arty  
Bn (3) of the 6th Arty Div participated with 203-mm howitzers. [redacted]

4. Comment. The field exercise terminated on 15 October 1952. [redacted]

5. Comment. [redacted] probably shipments of  
the 6th and/or 34th Arty Div.

6. Comment. A shipment of the 860th Lgr Bn of the XXVIII Gds Ltr Rifle Corps which went from Templin to Dessau [redacted] 50X1-HUM  
[redacted] The train was seen being loaded in Templin at 11 a.m.  
on 7 October. [redacted] It was again seen at the Wildpark railroad

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station during the period from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m. on 8 October. [redacted]  
 [redacted] It was seen proceeding through the Wiesenburg railroad  
 station at 12:45 p.m. on 8 October. [redacted] The present  
 information indicated that the train was unloaded in Dessau during the  
 period from 4 to 5 p.m. on 8 October and it was seen empty en route from  
 Dessau to Gross Behnitz on 8 October. [redacted]

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7. [redacted] Comment. Possibly a unit of the 220th Hvy Tank Bn Regt of the Eighth Gds Army from Glauchau.
8. [redacted] Comment. Unloading of the train [redacted] which came from Bad Koesen on 8 October, carrying a unit of the 19th Indop Gds Bn of the Eighth Gds Army. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
9. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] shipments of the 7th Gds Tank Div. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
10. [redacted] Comment. Probably the unloading of the train [redacted] which came from Grawinkel carrying units of the 36th (?) Tank Regt [redacted] of the 20th Gds Mecz Div. [redacted]
11. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] a unit of the 26th Bn of the IV Army Corps which came from Bismitz [redacted]

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